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Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 NEA-09 ISO-00 EB-07 AID-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01 SAJ-01 /084 W
---------- 066083
P R 070415Z MAR 75
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO SECSTATE WASHER PRIORITY 7343
INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
USUN NEW YORK 1780
AMEMBASSY KABUL

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ESCAP
SUBJECT: ESCAP: 31ST SESSION: COMMENTS ON ADOPTED NEW DELHI DECLARATION
REF: (A) NEW DELHI 3183 (B5 NAIROBI 1786

1. SUMMARY: NEW DELHI DECLARATION ADOPTED BY UNANIMOUS CONSENSUS WITH AFGHANISTAN RESERVING ON PARAGRAPH CONCERNING TRANSIT FACILITIES. THROUGH LONG AND DIFFICULT NEGOTIATIONS, USDEL ABLE TO SECURE FULLY ACCEPTABLE WORDING REGARDING NIEO. DESCRIPTION OF NIEO IS ALL SMALL LETTERS, I.E. NO CAPS, PRECEDED BY THE ARTICLE A RATHER THAN THE AND INSERTING WORDS "AS ADOPTED" WHEN REFERRING TO SIXTH SPECIAL SESSION RES. COMPROMISE WAS, HOWEVER, NECESSARY ON CHINESE SPONSORED POLITICAL TEXT. TOTAL DOCUMENT REPRESENTS, WE FEEL, VICTORY FOR U.S. IN UN SYSTEM. END SUMMARY.

2. AFTER EXTREMELY LONG AND DIFFICULT THREE-DAY NEGOTIATION SESSION, NEW DELHI DECLARATION (TEXT REPORTED REFTEL) ADOPTED BY GENERAL CONSENSUS IN PLENARY. AS DEPARTMENT AWARE, CONSENSUS IS THE ONLY ACCEPTABLE PROCEDURE IN ESCAP FORA. VOTES ON ISSUES ARE NOT REPEAT NOT TAKEN. THIS MEANS THAT
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RESOLUTIONS AND DECLARATIONS MUST BE HAMMERED OUT IN ARDUOUS,

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INFORMAL DISCUSSIONS. FINAL RESOLUTION, AS ADOPTED, WAS
BEST POSSIBLE FORMULATION U.S. DEL COULD ANTICIPATE WITHIN
THIS FRAMEWORK.

3. AS WILL BE NOTED FROM TEXT, NIEO IS GENERAL LEITMOTIVE OF
DOCUMENT. THROUGHOUT NEGOTIATING SESSIONS, INDIAN DELEGATION
MADE REPEATED ATTEMPTS TO USE LANGUAGE WHICH WOULD TIE NEW
DELHI DECLARATION SOLIDLY TO NIEO AND PROGRAM OF ACTION
PASSED IN SIXTH GA. U.S. DEL, WITH ENERGETIC SUPPORT FROM
JAPANESE DELEGATION, WAS ABLE TO THWART MOVE AFTER MOVE AND
OBTAIN DECLARATION IN WHICH NIEO REFERENCES MEET OUR
REQUIREMENTS.

4. AS REPORTED EARLIER, CHINESE MOVED TO INSERT POLEMICAL
LANGUAGE CONCERNING COLONIALISM IN DOCUMENT. THIS INITIALLY
OPPOSED BY DUTCH AND FRENCH, WHO, HOWEVER, WORKED OUT
COMPROMISE BY TYING ALL SUCH REFERENCES TO THE PAST THROUGH
USE OF PHRASE QUOTE HISTORICAL CIRCUMSTANCES UNQUOTE. EVEN
AFTER THIS SOLUTION ACCEPTED BY OTHER WESTERN GOVERNMENTS
PRESENT, U.S. DEL FURTHER INTERVENED TO WATER DOWN STATEMENT
TO BE SURE THAT THESE QUOTE HISTORICAL CIRCUMSTANCES UNQUOTE
BE CONSIDERED AS ONLY ONE OF MANY CAUSES OF UNDERDEVELOPMENT
IN THE REGION. AS ALL OTHER WESTERN COUNTRIES WERE COMPLETELY
AT HOME WITH THIS PHRASEOLOGY AND AS A DECISION WAS TO BE
REACHED BY CONSENSUS AND NOT VOTING, THERE WAS NO LIKELIHOOD
THAT PHRASE NEO-COLONIALISM COULD BE EXCISED.

5. CHINESE ALSO SOUGHT IN SAME PARAGRAPH DELETION OF
REFERENCES TO POPULATION GROWTH AS A PROBLEM OF DEVELOPMENT.
HOWEVER, AFTER ADDITIONAL LENGTHY DISCUSSION, THEY
ACQUIESCED IN RESTORATION OF THIS BASIC REFERENCE PARTIALLY
AS TRADE OFF FOR INCLUSION COMPROMISE RHETORIC ON COLONIALISM.

6. OTHER DIFFICULT ISSUE WAS QUESTION OF TRANSIT FACILITIES
OF LAND LOCKED COUNTRIES WHICH PITTED NEPAL AND AFGHANISTAN
AGAINST INDIA, PAKISTAN AND IRAN. LANDLOCKED NATIONS ALSO
PICKED UP SUPPORT FROM JAPAN, PHILIPPINES AND SRI LANKA.
AFTER SEVERAL HOURS OF NEGOTIATION FORMULA DEVELOPED
RECOMMENDING QUOTE COOPERATIVE EFFECT UNQUOTE.....QUOTE

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RELATING TO THE COMMODITIES AND RAW MATERIALS AS RELATED TO
THEIR THRADE, TRANSMIT FACILITIES AND DEVELOPMENT AS
APPROPRIATE (SIC). UNQUOTE. AFGHANISTAN RESERVED.

7.ALTHOUGH WE HAD ANTICIPATED FLOOR FIGHT IN PLENARY

BECAUSE OF INDIAN DISSATISFACTION WITH NIEO FORMULATIONS

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ACCEPTABLE TO THEM,
WE WERE SURPRISED WHEN CHIEF OF INDIAN
DELEGATION, MADE SPEECH STRONGLY ENDORSING ADOPTION OF
DECLARATION WITH NO ALTERATIONS. FOLLOWING INDIAN REMARKS,
CHAIR AFFIRMED THAT CONSENSUS HAD BEEN REACHED ON THE
RESOLUTION AND QUICKLY MOVED TO NEXT AGENDA ITEM. GIVEN
GENERAL ENTHUSIASM FOR DECLARATION WITHIN PLENARY AND GIVEN
FACT THAT DECLARATION, AS WORDED, WAS CLEAR-CUT VICTORY FOR
U.S. IN NIEO PROGRAM OF ACTION CONTEST, U.S. FELT IT
TACTICALLY PREFERABLE TO LIVE WITH NEO-COLONIALISM AS QUOTE
HISTORICAL CIRCUMSTANCES UNQUOTE RATHER THAN TO RISK LOSING
HARD WON FAVORABLE NIEO REFERENCES AS RESULT OF REOPENING
DEBATE.

8. APART FROM CHINESE INSERTION ON COLONIALISM/NEO-COLONIALISM,
LANGUAGE OF NEW DELHI DECLARATION IS MODERATE IN TONE BY
COMPARIASON WITH SUCH DOCUMENTS PRODUCED IN OTHER FORA.
PRESENCE OF FOUR NONREGIONAL (US, UK, FRANCE AND NETHERLANDS)
AND THREE REGIONAL (JAPAN, AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND) FREE
MARKET DEVELOPED COUNTRIES ADDS MODERATE ELEMENT LACING IN
OTHER LDC REGIONAL COMMISSIONS, INCLUDING ECLA, AND FORCES
GIVE AN
JTAKE BETWEEN DC'S AND LDC'S. PRESENCE OF SOVIET
UNION IS UNCERTAIN FACTOR BUT IN THIS INSTANCE SOVIET
REPRESENTATIVE (NESTERENKO) WAS MILD AND DID NOT TAKE VERY
ACTIVE OR MEANINGFUL PART IN DELIBERATIONS.

9. ALTHOUGH FRENCH DELEGATE (LEBEL) FELT INDIANS TRYING
EXERCISE ALGERIAN TYPE LEADERSHIP, THIS DID NOT MATERIALIZE.
INDIAN INITIATIVE IN PRODUCING DRAFT NEW DELHI DECLARATION
AND HERDING IT THROUGH COMMITTEE FALTERED BADLY AND NEVER ROSE TO
ANYTHING LIKE GALVANIZING ALGERIAN LEADERSHIP IN G-77 OR IN
RECENT ECA PLENARY, NAIROBI (REF B). INDIA AND OTHER ASIAN
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COUNTRIES SEEM EITHER NOT TO POSSESS OR UNWILLING COMMIT
ATTRACTIVE AND ABLE LEADERSHIP AT INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE
OF THIS KIND. WE BELIEVE THIS WAS ONE REASON WHY U.S., JAPAN, UK,
FRANCE CONTRIBUTION WAS ABLE TO OBTAIN SUBSTANTIAL
CONSIDERATION DC POINTS OF VIEW IN DECLARATION. ABSENCE OF
PERSUASIVE LEADERSHIP AMONG ASIAN LDC'S WOULD SEEM TO LEAVE
THEM OPEN TO BEING EASILY CORRALLED BY ALGERIAN OR OTHER
G-77 LEADERS IN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES.

10. IN ADDITION TO ENTIRELY ACCEPTABLE REFERENCE TO NIEO,
DEL WAS ALSO SUCCESSFUL IN HAVING THE REF FOCUSED ON THE
COMMON MAN WITH THE AIM OF ACHIEVING IMPROVED QUALITY OF
LIFE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE. (SEE NEW DELHI 2846)
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